

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01853 241237 Z

43

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14

USIA-12 OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 /136 W  
----- 012618

R 241145 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1572

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY SANAA

USCINCEUR

COMIDEASTFOR

USUN NEW YORK 0573

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1853

DEPARTMENT PASS BAGHDAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, KU, IZ, IR

SUBJECT: IRAN CONDEMNS IRAQI ATTACK ON KUWAIT

REF: KUWAIT 0872 ( NOTAL)

SUMMARY: IRANIAN NEWSPAPERS WHICH REAPPEARED MARCH 24 AFTER  
THREE DAY NOW RUZ HOLIDAY, FEATURE AND CONDEMN IRAQI RAID  
ON KUWAITI BORDER POST. EDITORIALS POINTEDLY WARN IRAQ AGAINST  
ATTACKING KUWAIT. EDITORIAL THEME PRIVATELY ECHOED BY FOREIGN  
MINISTRY OFFICER. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01853 241237 Z

1. MAIN HEADLINES AND LEAD ARTICLES IN MARCH 24 TEHRAN PRESS ARE DEVOTED TO IRAQI ATTACK ON KUWAITI BORDER POST. ARTICLES CONDIMN ATTACK AND TREAT IT AS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF AGGRESSIVE TENDENCIES OF BAGHDAD REGIME. EDITORIALS INCLUDE TOUGH WARNING IN SEMI- OFFICIAL KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL REMINDING IRAQ THAT IT MAY BE ABLE TO USE FORCE AGAINST KUWAIT BAT POINTEDLY ADDING THAT IF SAME MEANS SHOULD BE USED AGAINST BAGHDAD, IRAQIS WOULD HAVE LITTLE ROOM TO COMPLAIN.

2. DURING MARCH 24 DISCUSSION AT FOREIGN MINISTRY, PERSIAN GULF AFFAIRS CHIEF NASSER MAJD CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY THAT IRANIANS ARE CLOSELY FOLLOWING IRAQI- KUWAITI BORDER DEVELOPMENTS. MAJD NOTED APPROVINGLY THAT REACTION FROM ARAB COUNTRIES IS GENERALLY NEGATIVE TO IRAQI ACTION. VISITING EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MOHAMMAD HASSAN AL- ZAYYAT HAD ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY DEPLORED IRAQI ATTACK IN LOCAL NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW. (ZAYYAT'S STATEMENT WAS LEAD HEADLINE IN ONE NEWSPAPER.) MAJD WAS INCLINED TO BELIEVE THE IRAQIS WOULD NOT GO FURTHER THAN THEY ALREADY HAVE AGAINST KUWAIT. NOT ONLY WAS ARAB WORLD AGAINST THEM BUT BAGHDAD WOULD SURELY REALIZE THAT IRAN'S OWN INTERESTS WERE OPPOSED TO IRAQI AMBITIONS IN KUWAIT.

3. COMMENT: IRANIAN REACTION TO BORDER CLASH IS STRONGLY NEGATIVE BUT THERE ARE NO SIGNS OF UNDUE ALARM AND NO INDICATIONS THAT ANY MILITARY MOVEMENTS OR DISPOSITIONS HAVE TAKEN PLACE AS A RESULT OF IT. WHILE IRANIANS CONVINCED THAT BASIC STRAIN OF IRRATIONALITY PERVADES REGIME IN BAGHDAD, IRAQIS ARE NOT DEEMED TO BE SO RASH AS TO LAUNCH MAJOR ATTACK AGAINST KUWAIT IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES.  
HELMS

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED BAGHDAD.

CONFIDENTIAL

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973TEHRAN01853  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** TEHRAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730338/aaaaihwq.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 KUWAIT 0872  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10-Dec-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <03-Jan-2002 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971230  
**Subject:** IRAN CONDEMNNS IRAQI ATTACK ON KUWAIT  
**TAGS:** PBOR, IR, IZ, KU  
**To:** ABU DHABI  
AMMAN  
BEIRUT  
CAIRO  
JIDDA  
KUWAIT  
MANAMA

NEA

SECSTATE WASHDC

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005